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The national bank system will be all the stronger for getting rid of the rotten ones.

Most of the Cabinet makers have become tired, having begun work too soon, but William McKinley is still doing something

The McKinley tariff policy is giving the rade papers a great deal of concern. but the McKinley tariff and revenue legislation will put an end to deficits:

A Populist leader declared yesterday that "there is nothing for us to do but combine to agitate the principles of the Populist adopted at St. Louis." Really, that seems to be about all-agitation.

enterprising newspapers spirited pictures of the fight of Three Friends with the Spanish man-ofust have been somewhat embarstate that the whole thing was

There is something pathetic in the selfaction of the Populists, wno tope for the salvation of American liberty. Probably nothing but a government appointment would quench their

Papers throughout the State are giving considerable attention to the defects of local government. The Noblesville Ledger offers a plan which provides for abolition present county and township offices and vesting their powers in a county board and circuit court.

The facts show that all the recent bank failures have been due to overloans, inflation of credit, improperly secured debts in outside and illegitimate All these things are sympondition that free silver would aggravated. If the country, is ever to enjoy healthy prosperity it must get down to bed rock

Banks have been failing during the entire Cleveland administration. The failures which are now occurring are the result of causes which extend back for years, and not be expected that the election of Mckinley would prevent them. The fair udge the McKinley administration will be by the state of business during its second, third or fourth year.

In one growing city in this State one person in eight is a public charge, while in Indianapolis, where it might be assumed that there is a larger per cent, of pauperin smaller places, only one person in fifty-one is the object of public charity. The difference is due to the different methods of treatment. Pauperism is a plant of rapid growth when the conditions are favorable in the least degree.

ates of the country, exclusive of negroes. and only 36 per cent, of the population. As the States which furnished the Bryan electoral vote have for years been the backne of the Democracy and those insuring the election of Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Morton a place in the Cabinet, there are Democrats who regard this exposure as an evi-

Those gentlemen in and about Congress threatening to upset the civillaw and the merit system will do well to read the following:

The Republican party must take no step nackward. The merit system is here and is here to stay, and we may just as well understand and accept it now, and give our exist, and improve the law wherever it can to the advantage of the public

They should read it because it is the closing paragraph in the stirring remarks of William McKinley in the House, April 24 1890, opposing a motion to strike out an appropriation for the Civil-service Commis-

A paper published at Cloverdale in Putnam county recently stated that a young man of that place who was employed in manufacturing establishment at Muncie was told by his employers prior to the election that if McKinley was elected the factory would run on full time, but if Bryan it would mean a shut down. "The young man," said the Cloverdale paper, "although he had always been a Demopersuaded that it would be to his advantage to vote for McKinley. The factory was run a few days after the election shut down indefinitely. The is now here sadder and wiser, looking for the prosperity here which he failed to find at Muncie."

That would be a pretty good campaign story but for the following from the Green-

The young man alluded to in the above was a caller at this office on Suturday and the Graphic article false in every particular. He was merely on a trip to his home to visit relatives and has returned to Muncie to again take up his work, which is steady and profitable,

A Washington dispatch says that a hint session of Congress, Senators ler. Vest and other relies of the free-silver cause, will indulge in some comment on the figures of the late election in this State. There has been too much silly the Legislature, but it will not consider it

talk on this subject already, and it should not be added to. It began with one Moreton Frewen, an English advocate of free silver, who made a flying visit the United States during the recent campaign and made himself ridiculous by his wild predictions regarding the result. He knew nothing about Indiana or its people. When he found that his predictions regarding the election had failed he tried to find abnormal reasons for the result, and, among others, cited the figures in this State as evidence of fraud. A few papers accepted his figures without question and treated his conclusions as a real discovery. The Journal has demonstrated that they are without any foundation whatever and that those who are using them are simply parading their ignorance of the rapid growth of population in this State during the last ten years. If the silver senators above named take the matter up they will demonstrate more clearly than ever their ignorance of current history and existing con-

THE UNITED STATES AS MEDIATOR.

Washington dispatches relative to the mediation of the United States upon the restoration of peace in Cuba are conratdictory, but it is evident that negotiations looking to that end have been going on for some time. Their pendency may have accounted for the President's guarded treatment of the Cuban question in his recent message, although he did make direct 12ference to the fact that this government had proffered its services as mediator. After discussing the subject at considerable length in a very noncommittal way he said:

It would seem that if Spain should offer to Cuba genuine autonomy, a measure of home rule, which, while preserving the sovereignty of Spain, would satisfy all rational requirements of her Spanish subjects, there should be no just reason why the pacification of the island might not be effected on that basis. Such a result would appear to be in the true interest of all concerned. would at once stop the conflict, which now consuming the resources of the island and making it worthless for whichever party may ultimately prevail. It would keep intact the possessions of Spain without rather than impugned by the adequate redress of admitted grievances. It would put | Courier. the prosperity of the island and the fortunes of its inhabitants within their own control, without severing the natural and ancient ties which bind them to the mother country, and would yet enable them to test their capacity for self-government under the most favorable conditions.

After presenting some further arguments in favor of such a mode of settlement and some of the political difficulties in the way of the parties getting together, the Presi-

Being sincerely desirous in the interest of both, as well as on its own account, that the Cuban problem should be solved with the least possible delay, it was intimated by this government to the government of pain some months ago that, if a satisfactory measure of home rule were tendered the Cuban insurgents, and if it should be accepted by them upon a guaranty of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find a way, not objectionable to Spain, of furnishing such guaranty. While no definite response to this intimation has yet been received from the Spanish government, it is believed to be not altogether unwelcome, while, as already suggested, no reason is perceived why it should not be approved by the insurgents.

This shows that the negotiation had been going on for some months and was pending when the message was sent to Congress. There is reason to believe it has reached point where Spain has intimated a willingness to grant certain terms of settlement and authorize the United States to offer them to the Cubans and guarantee their execution. This would make the United States not only the mediator between the parties, but the guarantor of good faith and specific performance by both. The terms than was ever demanded by the Cubans before the present war, and as they include amnesty to the insurgents and the enforcement of important reforms they are fairly liberal. That Spain should ever in a tentative way offer such terms, or any terms short of unconditional surrender of the insurgents, shows that she is tired of the war, doubtful of her ability to suppress the insurgents and afraid of the intervention of the United States. It remains to be seen if the insurgents will accept the terms offered or anything short of independence. They must be as nearly exhausted as Spain. and perhaps are quite as anxious for peace.

The News has in the same issue two ed-

torials of nearly equal length and quite equal earnestness, entitled, respectively, "The Way of Prosperity" and "The Centennial Scheme." The way of prosperity the park way. From it we learn what most persons will remember to have heard that they advance the price of real ester how high they come. Regarding the centennial scheme we are told that "W need our State debt cut down. We are cut ting it down well, but we must have interference with this in the way of the addition of a single dollar." Substituting city for State, would not that apply to park scheme as well as to a centennial scheme? Again we are told regarding the centennial scheme that "The Reformatory for Girls and the Woman's Prison need money. The Central Hospital for the Insane needs more money. A great refantastic project for squandering millions of dollars for a centennial celebration. Now, there may be some who would para phrase this by saying: "The city has on ts hands an uncompleted system of sewerage, paving and public improvements. It needs new schoolhouses, a new city hall and other things, yet here we have 'this fantastic project' for spending half a million dollars for a park as a first step towards spending millions more." It all depends on the point of view whether a given proposition is a way of prosperity or a money squandering scheme,

The Centennial Commission created by the Legislature of 1895 and appointed by the Governor has received, first and last, served censure. The most of its members were selected without their knowledge, and none of them was an applicant for the position. The commission was charged with the duty of considering the feasibility of a centennial exposition, and, if possible, of recommending some plan to the Legislature. To read some of the criticisms of the commission which have been published one bers had banded together to lobby an expensive scheme for a centennial exposition through the Legislature and that the pushing of this scheme has been the object of the deliberations of the commission. The men composing this board are among the and successful busines; men. They have attended the meetings of the commission at their own expense, and will not ask remuneration of the Legislature. As a commission it will recommend some plan to

a part of its duty to lobby for any scheme Individually its members may hold that a centennial exhibit or building would be beneficial to the State, but they will not in all probability, exert themselves in that direction if the people of the State are adverse after having the project laid before them. If, every time that men of enterperform a public duty at their own expense they are denounced as self-seekers, it will not be long before such men will refuse any service of the sort.

INDIANA NEWSPAPER OPINION.

Mr. Bryan is getting unlimited experience, and it is hoped for the peace of the country that he will profit by it and settle town to the practice of law. The country is weary of his dreams.-Lafayette Courier. The United States has all it can manage ust now to care for its own domestic affairs, and cannot afford to put itself in hosile attitude toward Spain or any other foreign nation, and ought not to except under

compulsion.-Owen County Journal. The question of compulsory education will probably come up before the Legislature. Such a law should be passed. What t will cost the State to carry it out would be saved from the jails and penitentiaries on by another committee. in the future.-New Castle Courier.

The United States cannot afford to go into a war with Spain that may cost a billion dollars and the lives of thousands of good soldiers just to appease sentiment. We have international and neutrality laws, and these laws must be respected.-Tipton Ad-

If some of the men who were connected with the great bank failure in Chicago are not made to suffer the penalty due their betrayal of a sacred trust, then law and the machinery by which it is supposed to be enforced will be proven a roaring farce. -Fort Wayne Gazette.

Nothing could have been better than the promptness of the Republicans of the House ways and means committee in buckling right down to the work of preparing the Republican tariff bill, which is to be acted upon at the extra session of Congress.-Brookville American.

The time has arrived for a new departure by the United States in regard to its foreign policy. To keep in the race for the markets of the world we must fight our competitors with the weapons they use. Colonies, coaling stations, fortified strategic points, steamship lines and a modern navy are all features of this policy.-Madison

In the agitation regarding the publicity of trustees' reports there is but one conclusion to honestly arrive at. If the trustee rather have his reports published than not. If he lacks in either quality he doesn't want his township to know it. As far as the expense is concerned, it is insignificant, And it is prima facie evidence when he reuses to submit a public report that his financial affairs are not in a good business condition.—Marion Chronicle.

The Board of Charities suggests the establishment of a State school for dependent children, with a view to educating and instructing them in some useful employment, When once the plant for such a school has been established, the cost of maintenance would not be greater than it now is for same children. From whatever standpoint the question may be viewed, it would seem that the establishment of such a school is one of the most important topics to be presented to the coming General As-

sembly of Indiana.-Lafayette Call. As is well known, the members of the General Assembly meet only once in two years, and then for a period covering but sixty days. One-half of the senators hold over, but none of the representatives. Under this system the members-elect to the House of Representatives are expected to familiarize themselves with the practical workings of the Legislature, frame laws and perform such other acts as are incumbent upon them and still be free from critieism, which is bound to occur in case the laws enacted are unsatisfactory to the maority of the people. This is manifestly unfair to the representatives, and results in poor laws and general dissatisfaction all around. There are laws now on our statute ooks which are positively ridiculous and devoid of sense; laws which need only to be appealed to the Supreme Court to be annulled: laws which, having the proper motive behind their enactment, bear the ear marks of too hasty action, and which n consequence work incalculable injury to many industries throughout the State. The remedy for all this is plain. The sessions of the Legislature should be extended -Hammond Tribune.

ADVERTISING.

How to Reach the Buyers After the Christmas Rush Is Over.

The rush and crowd and excitement anti-Christmas buying is over. Business is slack, and it ought to be. If the holiday rush lasted forever a generation of workers would live but a few

There must be stagnation after agita-

The bulk of the holiday goods are purchased before Christmas.

Christmas trade will always be larger than post-Christmas business. Folks eat, drink, sleep and wear clothes after the holiday rush, and there is constant waste as well as constant necessity,

trade cannot die although it may dwindle after the holidays. Christmas prices are supposed to be higher than those of dull seasons, and Christmas crowds are not pleasant for the

Thousands upon thousands of women and men have intentionally waited for the holidays to close before buying the things

Nearly everything purchased during the holidays is bought to be given away and not to be enjoyed by the buyer. During the holidays very little is pur-

chased that is needed by the purchaser, because everybody is thinking of somebody else and is attempting to buy what somebody else wants instead of what the While a proportion of holiday presents

are of practical use, so large a part of

absolute necessity that the regular trade in necessities. Holiday presents are extra purchases on he part of the purchaser and extra com-

fort on the part of the receiver. The necessity of general buying remains, and if goods must be bought somebody

Partly because there always is trade and largely because so many progressive men become unprogressive during the postholiday depression, there is more than the usual opportunity for the advertiser to obtain the trade of necessity and the trade

that has waited. Because so few advertisers advertise liberally directly after Christmas, the man who has the sense and the sand to advertise obtains a large amount of the trade which is there and which will come to the man who asks for it. These are days for the most progressive

Winter has fairly settled upon us, and a good proportion of our people have not yet bought the necessities and comforts of

of advertising, and for the use of the most

Present advertising should be progressive, and it should be suggestive. It should tiser has, but should advise them prove to them the necessity and advantage of having many things which they know unknown reason they have not realized the necessity of immediately obtaining.

The advertising that pays is not confined to the times when everybody wants to buy and when competition is at its height. Much of the advertising that pays is that broad and liberal kind that stands out in the full strength of its progression amplifled by the fact that others who ought to

NATHANIEL C. FOWLER, JR. pay for improvement in sanitation; do accident companies adopt expensive measures in order to reduce the risks of accident. Company, New York.)

STATE BOARD OF COMMERCE DIS-CUSSES THIS TIMELY QUESTION.

prise and public spirit are called upon to Agrees that State's Law Should Be Revised-Mr. Finch's Paper-Addresses at the Evening Banquet.

> The Indiana State Board of Commerce convened yesterday in the assembly room of the Commercial Club. President Martindale opened the morning session with a short speech in which he announced the object of the board was to assist all efforts made to develop the commercial and industrial resources of the State. Chairman John E. Scott, of the commit-

tee on municipal affairs, reported that no

memorial had as yet been prepared to pre-

sent to the Legislature asking for an act

regulating land transfers upon the Torrens system. On motion of W. E. English the matter was held over to be acted The committee on the Indiana centennial scheme asked leave, through its chairman, William Fortune, to defer until to-day the reading of its report, and the request was granted. Very little other business was

transacted and the board adjourned until 2 o'clock. Over a hundred members were present at the afternoon meeting, seventy of these being from out of the city. The afternoon was devoted to the discussion of fire insurance and the session was somewhat more lively than that of the morning, many of the delegates holding conflicting opinions with regard to some of the points raised in the papers read, and some pretty lively tilts were indulged in.

FIRE INSURANCE DISCUSSED. T. R. McFerson, of Evansville, read the first paper on the subject: "Are There Abuses in the Method of the Companies?" He held that insurance rates were 20 per cent, too high and that the companies should put them back to what they were in 1893. He thought the present convention ought to be able to accomplish much and that the Legislature would be willing to grant any reasonable demand for new

Young E. Allison, editor of the Insurance Herald of Louisville, made the next address on, "Old Line Insurance." He spoke from the insurance man's point of view and his paper overflowed with wit and sarcasm in the effort to prove that insurance men do not recline on flowery beds of ease and those insured are not the only ones needing protection. His speech was warmly applauded, though most of those present were opposed to the sentiments expressed Charles D. Cox. of Chicago, followed with an address on, "Nonboard Insurance," He also spoke as an insurance man and made a good impression by his business-like manner. One of the causes of trouble, he thought, is the fact that the question with many agents is not whether their compa nies will profit by the risks they are taking, but whether the companies will take them at all. Agents of tariff companies, he said, are reducing rates on property where there is no reason for such reduction.

MR. FINCH'S PAPER.

the Situation?" He spoke as follows: That fire insurance is costing too much is easily demonstrable. Since the law of 1873 to the 1st of January, 1896, the people of this State have paid to the fire insurance companies of other States and countries the immense sum of \$53,556,304.14. In addi tion to this they have paid a large sum home companies, the amount of which is not ascertainable, as the companies, with one exception, have made no reports, not being required by law so to do. The peoof the State are now paying annually a sum in excess of \$4,000,000 for fire insurance premiums. During the period above named, from the enactment of the law of 1873 to January. 1896, the companies of other States and countries paid to the State of Indiana for the privilege of doing business therein \$1,049,895.74. Out of the entire sum received they paid for losses and expenses the sum of \$50,654,116.51, leaving a profit to the companies in the period named, of \$3,502,187.63. At the end of the period named there are seventy-eight companies of other States and countries doing business in the State. Thirty-nine companies have done business within the State continuously during that period. During that period 144 companies entered the State and withdrew because of unprofitable business, or became insolvent. As stated, the sum of \$3,502,187.63 appears as profit to the companies in the period named. In view of the fact that, by the contracts of the companies during that period, on which that profit was made, they were exposed to lose hundreds of millions of dollars, it can

or unreasonably large. "Nevertheless, it is apparent that fire in surance is costing the people of the State too much. It is costing too much because the well-built and well-protected structures are made to pay for the badly-protected and badly-built structures, and because the State is exacting more in the way of taxation and other charges than is imposed on any other business. No other business has been so heavily burdened, and no business suffering such taxation and charges could have shown so many survivors and so few wrecks.

hardly be said that the profit is excessive

NO USE TAXING THEM. "How can we better such a situation? Certainly not by higher taxation and eavier charges, or by imposing greater burdens on the companies. The insurance companies are simply tax-collectors and premium to pay every assessment upon property or from the State for whatever purpose. The outlay for taxes and charges, whatever it is, and the result of legisla tion, whatever it may be, on the hazard. is simply an addition to the premium The outlay for fire losses is gov erned by the law of chance and such conditions as the condition of buildings and fire protection produce.

"Given a stringent requirement how buildings should be constructed and how they and their contents should guarded, and the quality of fire protection afforded, the rate of premium is easily To the rate of premium thus fixed must be added taxes and charges of whatever sort. If we wish to reduce the premium rate, the first thing to do is to have proper laws for the construction and protection of buildings by their owners, and proper fire protection. there should be proper laws for investigating the cause of fires. In addition to such laws, the laws for the organization of home companies and the admission of foreign companies should be as liberal as they can be within lines of safety to the policy holders. Given, then, proper laws, we can safely trust to competition to keep the fire premium as low as it can be with safety "The rate of premium in every locality distinctly indicates the quality of suc laws as those referred to. In France, for instance, the average premium on all classes of risks is given as less than ten cents on the hundred dollars. In America the entire average is given as in excess of one dollar on the hundred dollars. In this

State it is more than that, and in other States is still greater. The question naturally arises, whose duty is it, and especially what duty rests upon fire insurance companies to see that we have such proper laws? Primarily, of course, such duty rests upon the whole people, and it is to the credit of the fire insurance companies that they have been from the first in this country quick to suggest the enactment of such laws. The underwriters of America, to their credit, be it said, recognize a duty resting upon them-which, to the discredit of foreign underwriters, they do not recognize as resting upon them. There is in New York a public-spirited body known as the Fire Protection whose large purpose is to give to the people of the country such information as will enable States and cities to guard against excessive fire losses. This organization may be taken as the expression of the sentiment of the American underwriters upon derwriters is not in conformity with this The leading insurance paper of England The Review, in a recent number in com upon the organization of Fire Protection Association, with true English dullness, fails to comprehend the purpose of the association, and with bluntness states the position of the English underwriter. Erroneously that the American the association propose to contribute to the enactment of such laws, The Review says: 'Do marine companies erect light houses, etc. minimize the petils insured against:

derwriting thus: 'The true principle of fire underwriting is to treat risks as they are and not to invent improved building construction or appliances.' It quotes from an insurance officer the English theory as expressed in the instructions of his pany to its agents: 'Mind your own business; let the people make the laws; let them make the hazard; let the hazard make the rate; we take it as they make it.

COMPETITION WILL REGULATE. 'It seems to me that the position of the American underwriter evinces a very proper spirit-a spirit of patriotism indeed. But for the efforts of the American fire underwriters in giving to the country the suggestions as to what would be proper legislation, the fire losses in this country, which now average about one hundred and fifty millions of dollars per annum, might have been doubled or quadrupled. It is clear to me that the legislatures, State and municipal, should keep in close touch with the fire underwriting interest in all matters looking to a diminution of the fire loss. It is unhappily true that there has from time to time been such friction between the companies and individuals who have suffered losses with unsatisfactory adjustment, and with individuals who have been charged excessive premiums, that the suggestion of the insurance people as to legislation looking to fire prevention have not been warmly welcomed. It has sumed that they were speaking selfishly. Against this conclusion it need only said that if the laws are liberal as to the organization of home companies and the admission of foreign companies, competition will go far to regulate the matter of unfair adjustment as well as the matter of rates. Legislation has served its purpose, in so far as it can affect the rates. when we have such laws as those first indicated. The rate can never be improved by legislation directed at the rate. The rate, which is the price of insurance, can no more be the subject of direct legislation than can the price of any other article of necessity. The rate cannot be improved by a tax upon the companies. 'A tax upon insurance,' said Charles Sumner in the United States Senate, 'is a tax upon a tax, and therefore a barbarism.' That companies should pay a tax and par-stock companies, is clear; but it should be understood that the tax, whatever it is, is an imposition pro tanto upon the premium. If a savings oank should insist upon an excessive rate of interest it would be a very unsatisfactory remedy to enact a law taxing the bank 3 per cent. on its deposits. Nor could there be any legislation that would afford

a satisfactory remedy. 'In my opinion, then, the situation can e bettered by proper legislation on the lines indicated, which can only be brought about by a proper understanding between public-spirited underwriters and publicspirited legislators. If one is actuated by greed and the other by malice and prejudice the situation will be made the worse

At the close of Mr. Finch's address general discussion took place on the merits of the insurance bill, of which Mr. Finch father, to be introduced in the next Leg-Considerable was said on sides of the question, but the members on the whole were unfamiliar with the terms of the bill and a great deal of what was said was irrelevant.

STATE BOARD EXPRESSES ITSELF. In order to secure some expression of opinion before the meeting closed, W. V. Story, of Lafayette, introduced the following resolution, which was passed:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting of the Indiana State Board of Commerce that the rates of insurance now in force are excessive and that we recommend that some action be taken to bring about an equitable and lower rate for fire insurance, and that a committee of five from this body be appointed for that pur-Mr. McFerson then made the following John A. Finch, of this city, read the last paper on: "What Can We Do to Better motion

"I move that a committee of seven be appointed, whose duty it shall be to pre-

"First-A bill for an act repealing the section imposing the 10 per cent. penalty on home companies. "Second-A bill for an act for the organzation of home companies that would enable citizens of the State to organize companies with safety to themselves and their

"Third-A bill for an act regulating the business of foreign insurance companies doing business in the State; and that said committee, as speedily as possible, report such bills to the Council, whose duty it shall be, if such bills meet with its approval, to present them to the forthcoming General Assembly with the recommendation of this board that they be enacted and to use all proper means to secure their

enactment Though the motion conflicted somewhat with Mr. Stoy's resolution, it was carried, and the chair appointed the committee for which the motion provides, as follows: MacFerson, Evansville, chairman; W. English. Indianapolis; J. O. Parker, Danville; W. V. Stoy, Lafayette; S. Park-er, Plymouth; W. S. Roys, Elkhart; C. Weiger, Madison. The committee is to confer this morning with Mr. Finch as to changes in his bill. The chair also appointer a committee on esolutions as follows: J. T. Walker,

Evansville, chairman; G. B. Cardwill, New Albany; J. H. Crozier, Madison; H. B. Sykes, Elkhart; J. E. Scopt, Indianapolis; H. G. Thayer, Plymouth; J. R. Ryan, In-It was getting late and the board then djourned until this morning at 9 o'clock, when the subject of the meeting will be

"Reform in Local Government." An afternoon session will also be held at which "State Sanitation" will be considered.

THE CENTENNIAL PROJECT Defended at a Banquet of the State Board of Commerce.

Members of the Indiana State Board of Commerce, now in convention in this city, to the unstinted enjoyment of a feast prepared for them by the Indianapolis Board of Trade and Commercial Club. The banquet was held at the Commercial Club restaurant, and over a hundred visiting and local members were seated at the board. All the good things, both solid and liquid, that could be desired by an epicure were gathered together and heaped upon the tables. The banqueters did yeoman work in the despoilation of the viands, diamondback terrapin, roast quail, shrimp salad and Zortone ice cream disappearing in quick succession, with just enough champagne to render easy the work of swallow-

But eating and drinking was not the entire order of the evening. There were speeches made, and good ones, too, many of the banqueters. E. B. Martindale acted as toastmaster, and filled his office most acceptably. Each speaker was introduced in happy fashion, and but few of them failed to respond with equal happiness. Some of the speeches were gems of oratory, and some bubbled over with a wit and humor which called forth roars of

MR. DOHERTY'S TOAST. Hugh Doherty, of Bluffton, a member of the centennial commission, was the first speaker of the evening, responding to the toast, "Indiana's Centennial in 1900." After going at length into the history of Indiana and the reasons why a great centennial

celebration would be justified, he said: "We cannot now boast of area. In popuation, however, Indiana ranks eighth, and n proportion to area the sixth State of the Only two States west of the Alleghenies are greater in this respect, notwithstanding the fact that our State has no very large cities on the waterways of her borders. In location and natural resources

there is none greater than Indiana. "The center of our country's population s within her borders. The largest inland ity and railroad center on this continent Indianapolis, the city having the least per cent. of foreign population of any large city in America except our Nation's capi-Situated in the richest valley in the world, with the advantages of unfailing seasons, there are no failures in Indiana, and more than once has she been an Egypt to the famine-stricken in our own and other countries. Crossed by all of the great trunk ines of railroad, and in contact with the great lakes and navigable tributaries of the, Mississippi, the Hoosier State is the very heart of the Nation, whose outgoing arteries of commerce nourish every part of our national body. "This unique position of our State very

early attracted to her an intelligent and ndustrious citizenship, whose achievements have kept pace with the progress of this, the most marvelous of all the centuries. diana's first Territorial Governor became our Nation's chief executive, as did also his most illustrious grandson, the only survivng ex-President. Twice has Indiana furnished our Vice President, and the long list of eminent statesmen and generals and heroes have won for our State a lasting renown. And when the widening breach bethey even support lifeboats or the fire tween the North and South threatened to nothing whatever about his subject. brigade for saving life; do life companies

mauga's field are more monuments to Indiana's heroes than to those of any other

'Not less illustrious is our State's career in education and letters. Again and again has her educational system been adopted by sister States and South American republics, and its efficiency demonstrated. At the Chicago world's fair, says our executive commissioner in his report, 'the three greatest educational exhibits were those of New York, Massachusetts and Indiana, and taking into consideration the age of the State, Indiana may claim first place. She but recently furnished presidents for Leland Stanford and Lake Forest Universities, both of whom are among the highest authority in their respective branches of science. She gave Cleveland (O.) and the Department of Indian Education at Washington their superintendents, not to mention the scores of able professors in every part of the Union, as well as those now in

charge of our educational affairs. HER CAREER IN LETTERS. "In letters, Eggleston, Ridpath, Wallace, Maurice Thompson and others have made our fame world-wide. Our poets, Riley, Harris, Parker and many more sing as sweetly of the "Old Swimmin' Hole" and Hoosier life as ever did any of the New England bards of their lofty themes, and now that the first rash rush for material civilization is over, we shall have from our own State increasing and lasting contributions to the world's literature.

"I should be derelict should I fail to mention a few of the names that have given us national renown, among them the great scientist Owen, the war Governors Whitcomb and Martin, Generals Clark, Canby, Manson, Hovey and Jeff C. Davis; the statesmen-Harrison, Hendricks, Colfax, Gray, Thompson, Matthews, Miller and Voorhees and Turpie; financiers, McCulloch, Laniers and English; manufacturers, De Pauw, Studebaker Brothers, Oliver, J. H. Bass and others are paramount, and in this regard Indiana is the peer of any State in the Union.

"Great as has been Indiana in the past, a greater future stretches out before her. In what way could we more effectively inspire our sons and daughters to greater achievement than by showing them what their fathers and mothers have done under less favorable conditions? How shall they appreciate their inheritance without recounting the cost? In what way could this be done so well as by such an object lesson as the proposed centennial?

"It remains for me to consider the business man's view, 'Will it pay?' Our reply is. Yes. The amount of money spent in preparation and by those who come into the State on account of the proposed exhibition cannot be approximated. It will doubtless be beyond any liberal estimate that will be placed upon it. A parade of our resources will attract capital, which will come into the State to build up our manufacturing and commercial industries throughout all time, and which will more than repay the State for what she will do. even if all the means to carry out the exposition were raised by taxation.

"There will be much money raised and spent by the manufacturing interests, merchants and bankers, which, when spent, will add very largely to the success of the enterprise, and will inure to the benefit of the entire state. The money thus attracted to the State will be here to be compounded in profits, and will be like the efforts of our forefathers, not so much noticeable at the time, but will go on increasing until it will be seen that the centennial will pay, even from a monetary point of view. The preceding century went out with tearstained faces because of the death Washington, who had liberated the Pilgrim fathers from the tyranny of the old world. Now, let us show our appreciation of his generalship and statesmanship, which placed before his country such marvelous possibilities, the result of which has made Indiana great, by commemorating the events of the nineteenth century in a celebration unsurpassed in all its parts, and make it live for future ages by the erection of a building in the capital city that will be the pride of the people of this great State, and be the neuclus around which will cluster refinement, intelligence and in dustry, until the opprobrium heretofore attached to the word 'Hoosier' shall be transformed into one that is synonymous for all that is good and great. Add to this the increased loyalty and wholesome State pride which such an exhibit would inspire, th marvelous possibilities which it would prophesy, the gratitude and ambition which would arouse in the breasts of those wh inherit the priceless blessings of a hundred years, and the proposition to celebrate our anniversary in a manner commensurate with its importance, is, I think, fully war-

C. C. Shirley, of Kokomo, also a member of the centennial commission, "bke next. in response to the same toast. 'ike Mr. Doherty, warmly favored the

Colonel Eli Lilly was called on next and made an enthusiastic plea for the success of the plan. He did not hestitate to round ly score an afternoon paper of this city for its opposition to the plan. He said: "There is no personal motive in the minds of the men who are striving for the success of this undertaking, notwithstanding what a press inclined to personal atacks may say. I am for this plan because I am a Hoosier first and a citizen of Indianapolis only secondarily.

MR. ADAMS'S TOAST. J. C. Adams, president of the Board of Trade, then responded to the toast, "The Monetary Conference," and made what Charles J. Jewett, of New Albany, referred to as "the best speech on finance he had

ever heard." "From the reports received," said Mr. Adams, "the executive committee feel justified in saying that the coming convention will equal in character, ability, and established reputation, any that has convened in recent years. Among the delegates will be found those who follow the highest calllast night laid aside the weighty affairs ings, and practice the noblest professions which have engrossed their attention since of life, many of whom have been honored etary reforms that will come finally, the opening session and gave themselves up by their fellow men with positions of public trust and high official station. Behind this reform are many of our active, successful men of affairs, who, by their force of character, enterprise and business talents, not only conceive, but manage large and important commercial and financial interests. In this movement, as in every crisis of our country's history, it is the middle classes and great body of business men, who have risen to the needs of the hour and have shown themsives equal to every emergency, and in the end have proved to be the mainstay of our Republic and the saving grace of our institutions.

> To what extent the country will be benefited by the convention of Jan. 12 remains to be seen. Should the conference merge into a town meeting, at which the members shall air their views and seek to advance some hobby, scheme, or project which they might entertain, it will certainly disappoin the country, and cause regret that it had ever been called. But if it should be dominated by a liberal, intelligent and patriotic spirit, and its proceedings marked with cau tion, wisdom and moderation, we may feel assured that the trend and scope of its work will lead to an early and satisfactory settlement of this much vexed question. Such action might warrant the belief that our National Congress would accord weight to its conclusions and heed its recommendations, provided they are in line with a broad, nonpartisan spirit, with a purpose of ultimate good to all

From every standpoint we are encour-

aged to take a hopeful view of the future

By degrees we are burying the dead wood past traditions and exploded theories that have been found to stand in the way of the gradual and progressive growths of the Nation, while much progress has been made towards reaching an understanding with foreign nations on questions which heretofore have been unsettled. Now, in the declining years of the second century of our national life, no greater boon or more beneficient legacy could be given to our people that the sound, unfluctuating and comprehensive monetary system. Charles J. Jewett, of New Albany, came next, and made a rousing speech in favor of the Indiana centennial. He, too, took occasion to score the afternoon paper opposing the scheme and took it to task for unfair criticism of the commissioners who, he said, were not the originators of the scheme. He was somewhat hindered in his remarks by constant interruptions from a loquacious member who had been imbibing a little too freely of the spiritnous and malt liquors set before Lim, and who insisted that references to any partic ular newspaper be dispensed with. A high tribute which the speaker paid to Governor Matthews, the combatative member took as a "reflection on our Governor." was suppressed finally, and Mr. Jewett went on with his work of convincing his hearers of the benefits of an Indiana cen-

Allison, of Louisville, Ky. made the next speech, on "Organized Public Spirit." He prosed as a veritable fountain of wit, and long before he finished his hearers were nearly finished with laughter. He described himself as one of the few men who had never voted for a successful candidate, and because of the manner in which fate had caused his resdence to be shifted from one State to anwas, not a too much country. But he gave vice, though he confessed that he knew engulf the Nation Indiana's sons and In- said Chicago was the only city and Illi-diana's war Governor furnished bonds of nois the only State of which he knew triumphant patriotism which helped to where public spirit was really organized.

the edges of the twenty-four foot ring, each one waiting his chance to take part in the Three-minute speeches were then listened to from a number of the visiting delegates, each one speaking of his own town. and at a late hour the festivities closed.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.

The Delegates at the State Board of Commerce Meeting.

Below are the cities and towns represented at the meeting of the State Board of Commerce, and the representatives in ac-

Attica-Albert Schoonover. Angola-H. W. Gilbert, Sol A. Wood. Blufton-Hugh Doherty, H. D. Cook, Walter W. Greek, J. W. Sale, Mayor L. D. Stevens Brazil-Mayor D. W. Brattin, D. W. Bridges, W. C. Hall. Bloomington-Mayor L. V. Buskirk. Brightwood-Dr. B. A. Brown, Calvin W. Bush, Frank Roesch, J. J. Stephens, J. J. Valdenaire.

Cambridge City-W. F. Medsker. Columbus-Dr. George T. McCoy. Connersville-F. T. Roots, W. W. McFaran, Mayor Hyatt L. Frost. Covington-James L. Allen, Charles Bergdahl, Mayor A. T. Livengood Danville-James A. Downard, Julian D. Hogate, James O. Parker. Edinburg-A. S. Helms, William Scouce John A. Thompson. Elkhart-J. R. Beardsley, M. U. Demarest, W. B. Pratt. Cyrus D. Roys, H. B. Sykes, C. H. Winchester. Elwood-James P. Finan, C. M. Greenlee D. E. Leeson, Jacob Loomis, Col. H. D. Seymour Evansville-William Akin, jr., E. L. Coth-

rell, P. G. Kelsey, C. J. Murphy, H. M. Sweetser, Aaron M. Weil. Francisville-L. W. Hubble. Frankfort-Robert Bracken, N. P. Clay-Franklin-Dr. L. L. Whitesides. Greensburg-Will Cumback, Mayor C. F. Northern, S. F. Rogers, W. A. Watson. Greenfield-Montgomery Marsh.

Greencastle-C. B. Case, S. A. Hays, T. T. Hartford City-H. B. Smith, Indianapolis-E. B. Martindale, R. O. Hawkins, G. W. Sloan, J. S. Lazarus, J. R. Ryan, M. A. Woollen, Otto N. Frenzel, C. C. Foster, J. L. Keach, L. C. Walker, W. H. Leedy, Allen M. Fletcher, August Kiefer, J. R. Wilson, Martin A. Hugg, G. W.

Eichholtz. Jeffersonville-George Voigt, E. L. Dorsey. Mayor I. F. Whitesides. Kendaliville-J. S. Conlogue, C. T. Aichole, Mayor James Graves. Knightstown-L. P. Newby. Kokomo-George P. Wood, P. E. Hoss, Mayor A. B. Kirkpatrick, C. C. Shirley, Lafayette-W. V. Stoy, Wilson B. Mith,

Wm. F. Stillwell, Mayor Noah Justice, Severance Burrage Lebanon-C. F. S. Neal, S. B. Artman and Mayor R. S. Garrett. Logansport-M. W. Collett, Dr. A. J. Hermann, Charles O. Heffley, Mayor G. P. Mc-Madison-James H. Crozier, John K. Meyer, Thomas Graham, J. M. Cornett, C.

E. Cosby, John W. Linck. Marion-Hiram Brownlee, Southall, G. C. Harwood, W. C. Webster, J. J. Kyle, Dr. John H. Forrest. Muncie-J. F. Wildman, George W. Cromer, Arthur W. Brady, George M. Bard, F. J. Claypool Martinsville-James Blair, F. T. Singleon, Mayor D. P. Kennedy. Noblesville-John F. Neal, Wm. H. Craig. Edgar C. Wilson, R. R. Stephenson, Judge T. P. Davis.

New Albany-George B. Cardwill, G. W. Smith, E. G. Henry, C. L. Jewett, Councilman James Johnson, Mayor Thomas W. Armstrong Notre Dame-William Hoyne: Plymouth-Samuel Parker, H. G. Thayer, Dr. J. H. Wilson.

Richmond-Dr. T. Henry Davis. Salem-J. A. Kemp. Seymour-Louis Schneck, Councilman H. M. Schwing, Mayor Joseph Balsley Shelbyville-G. C. Morrison, F. B. Blanchard, Mayor J. H. Enos. Spencer-Nathaniel D. Cox.

Terre Haute-T. H. C. Royse, J. Irvine Riddle, Dr. Walker Schell, Robert B. St.m. Vevay-F. M. Griffith, George S. Pleas-Vincennes-B. M. Willoughby. Wabash-John B. Latcham, J. M. Harten Mayor James E. McHenry.

Waldron-S. P. Stroup. Washington-John H. O'Neall, W. Q. WD liams, Mayor John H. Spencer. The Feast of the Year.

This is the feast-time of the year. When hearts grow warm and home more dear autumn's crimson torch expires To flash again in winter fires; and they who tracked October's flight Through woods with gorgeous hues bedight, n charmed circle sit and praise

The goodly log's triumphant blaze. This is the feast-time of the year When Plenty pours her wine of cheer, And even humble boards may spare To poorer poor a kindly share. While bursting barns and granaries know A richer, fuller overflow, And they who dwell in golden east

Bless without toil, yet toil to please. blessed Advent draweth near. rich and poor together break The bread of love for Christ's sweet sake Against the time when rich and poor Must ope for Him a common door, Who comes a guest, yet makes a feast, And bids the greatest and the least.

-New York Ledgen

Concerning Monetary Reform. The monetary reform convention which will meet shortly at Indianapolis can do much or little according as those in attendance upon the convention view the matter. If they go about their labors with the idea that they are to settle all the intricate questions at issue by their deliberations, they will fail utterly to accomplish any reforms worthy of the name. If, however they approach the subject with sincerity and with no desire for hasty action, they will lay the foundation for complete mononly after the question has been broadly be well, therefore, for those who are delegates to this convention to realize its importance, and the responsibility which rests upon them. The chairman of the executive committee of the convention, H. H. Hanna, takes a common sense view of the entire question of advising against any action or the part of the convention that will com-mit it to any bill or plan of reform. The most that it should do, he thinks, is to appoint a commission to sit three or even six months to consider every plan and every suggestion that is brought before it, and finally to devise a currency plan that ought

proval of all classes. The Crime of Useless Agitation.

under such circumstances to meet the ap-

Theodore Roosevelt, in Review of Reviews. I am not an empiricist: I would no more leny that sometimes human affairs can be much bettered by legislation than I would affirm that they can always be so bettered I would no more make a fetich of unrestricted individualism than I would admit the power of the state offhand and radically to reconstruct society. It may become necessary to interfere even more than we have done with the right of private contract, and to shackle cunning as we have shackled force. All I insist upon is that we must be sure of our ground before trying to get any legislation at all, and that we must not expect too much from this legislation, nor refuse to better ourselves a little because we cannot accomplish everything at a jump. Above all, it is criminal to excite anger and discontent without proposing a remedy, or only proposing a false remedy. The worst foe of the poor man is the labor leader, whether philanthropist or politician, who tries to teach him that he s a victim of conspiracy and injustice. when in reality he is merely working out his fate with blood and sweat as the immense majority of men who are worthy of the name always have done and always wil

have to do. Holiday Festivities in Kentucky.

Springfield Republican. It was a merry Christmas week in Kentucky-six lynchings within six days. But while this may be a joyous way of celebrating in Kentucky, we cannot regard it with unmixed feelings of satisfaction from the standpoint of the country at large. this thing continues there may be a joint Turkish and Spanish intervention in our domestic affairs in behalf of humanity.

The Original Magazine Editor.

Atlanta Constitution. It is going the rounds that Editor Mc-Clure, of magazine fame, asked Elizabeth Phelps-Ward to "write a bright, snappy life of Christ" for him, and that the shocked authoress replied that she "did not know how to write 'a snappy' life of Christ." Some of these magazine editors are as original as original sin.

Bryan's Promise.

Philadelphia Inquirer. "What," asks an impertinent Chicago exchange, "did William Jennings Bryan find in his Christmas stocking? without a country, but a man promise of victory four years hence?" think not. Not unless Mr. Bryan wrote the

promise himself. Hopeful Kentuckians. Philadelphia Press. Kentucky lynchers have not quite equaled